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U. S. Department of Agriculture



SEEDS

"The Sign of Quality"



WHAT CLEAN HIGH YIELDING SEED WILL DO.

Potato grower near Chili, N. Y., secured 63 bushels to the acre from his own seed and 151 bushels to the acre from the Hirucos, a gain of 88 bushels. The Hirucos yielded 2.4 bushels to every one of ordinary seed. Cultural conditions the same.

Hickox-Rumsey Co., Inc.
Improved and Pedigreed Seed

Batavia, - - - New York

D. N. Shoemaker

HIRUCO SEED POTATOES

Let us take you through the course of development as we are now bringing up seed for our **HIRUCO** fields of potatoes.

From the best field of which we know of the variety our specialist in plant pathology and plant breeding makes hill selections. Each hill makes at least a 20 hill unit. If we know this field to contain only a trace of disease we select from each hill enough tubers to plant 20 hills. If we have not a field we are sure of we index each tuber of the hill and plant only such tubers as show no disease.

By indexing we mean taking an eye from each potato, plant it in a flower pot and place in the greenhouse. When these plants have grown tall enough to determine disease development we discard those showing disease. The potatoes from which the eyes are taken are marked with the same number as the planted eye is labeled. Discarding the tubers which the index indicates are diseased we can save the disease free potatoes as the balance of the potato has not been exposed to the disease and it is perfectly safe to plant these potatoes in the plots with other disease free stock.

These 20 hill units are planted on ground which has equal fertilization and the planting is arranged so that each hill is equi distant from adjoining hills, the planting being carefully made by hand using seed pieces of approximate equal weight. These hill units are watched carefully and should any disease develop the hill is destroyed at once. Then at digging time each unit is weighed separately and kept separate, stored in a good cellar until March then treated and put into cold storage till two weeks before planting.

From each unit which meets certain requirements enough potatoes are taken to plant 100 hills. These are planted in 20 hill units, a row of each pure line appearing in 5 different sections of the plot. The same care is taken as with the first 20 hill units. This gives us 5 plantings of each pure line in different sections of the plots for comparison.

The remainder of the pure line units which meet requirements are massed for a small field. This field has the constant attention of our plant pathologist and this crop goes into our **HIRUCO** fields which again are watched carefully and sprayed under our own supervision.

The potatoes grown in our **HIRUCO** fields are treated with corrosive sublimate and stored the same as our smaller plots and in sorting great pains are taken, cutting probably much harder than necessary but it is the seed from which many fields for seed for the following year will be planted. Some of these **HIRUCOS** are sold for the planting of seed plots in sections where it is practical for the farmer to grow his own seed. The balance goes for contracts to be grown to supply sections where it is more practical to buy seed every year. In other words, if you are not in a section where you can grow a seed potato plot each year to advantage we perform the service of growing it for you.

It should be distinctly understood that none of our contract fields are grown from seed the contractor has kept over as we furnish them from our **HIRUCO** fields new seed which has had our close attention and has been treated for scab and rhizoctonia and held in cold storage.

The contract fields are inspected by the representative of the Plant Pathology Department of the State College of Agriculture at Ithaca. We do this as a check and to furnish the purchasers a report from a disinterested party who is qualified to judge.

We tell you this story to show you that each year you can expect that seed potatoes bought of us will be for the season better than the year before and certainly in a series of years will be reaching higher quality. We show you that we believe in going back each year to original source for we do it ourselves thereby avoiding as much as possible the errors caused by the human element. We firmly believe that our Number Nine strain has the best combination of health, yield, set, eating quality and cutting for seed to the best advantage of any Rural strain.

In closing will call your attention to the fact that any potatoes offered in large quantities by others as having come from our seed are at least one year further removed from our close work than the seed we offer you.

HICKOX-RUMSEY CO., Inc.

Other Seeds We Have to Offer or in Process of Increase

Bliss Triumphs Potatoes
¶Green Mountain Potatoes
Irish Cobbler Potatoes
*Rural Russet Potatoes
*Garnet Chili Potatoes
Victory Oats
Crown Oats
Cornellian Oats
Golden Rain Oats
Alpha Barley (Two rowed)
Featherston No. 7 (Six rowed)
No. Six Junior Wheat (White)
*Forward Wheat (Red)
*Svalof Star Rye
Montana Grown Common Alfalfa
Montana Grown Genuine Grimm Alfalfa
Robust Pea Beans
*Red Kidney Beans
*White Marrow Beans
*Yellow Eye Beans
Cornell Eleven Corn
Oil Dent Corn
Hubam Sweet Clover

* Indicates in process of increase.

¶ Indicates very small quantity will be offered this season as an introduction.